

Code of Conduct for Players, Officials & Spectators in the Sheffield Table Tennis League

It is a requirement of the Sheffield Table Tennis League (STTL) that everyone involved will respect the rights, dignity & worth of anyone they meet within our sport regardless of age, ability, gender, race, religion, ethnic origin, disability, social status or sexual orientation.

Everyone is entitled to be involved in table tennis without suffering abuse or oppressive behaviour.

The Sheffield Table Tennis League complies with the Young Persons Safeguarding Guidance provided by Table Tennis England (TTE) on their website where there is a reporting form & extensive guidance. STTL intend to provide a Safeguarding Officer where possible but the TTE one can be contacted if necessary. The guidance can also be used for other vulnerable people.

Specific guidance as follows:

- Always do your best to behave appropriately in every situation and to set a positive example.
- Observe the spirit as well as the rules of fair play by behaving politely towards all others involved in the sport of table tennis, even if irritated or angered by their behaviour.
- Oppressive, intimidating &/or bullying behaviour is not acceptable; this includes by social media & texting, emails etc away from play.
- Follow match play rules eg serving correctly & without undue haste or delay as failure to do so can provoke opponents.
- Endeavour to comply with accepted etiquette such as apologies for nets & edges, not speaking during a rally or not making inappropriate comments between rallies.
- Be polite to umpires even if you disagree with their decision, stating your disagreement politely; umpires should respect the players & focus on the match & not allow themselves to be distracted by other events in the room or by texting/ emailing etc.
- Encourage and support fellow team members but without behaving in an unsporting manner towards your opponents.
- Treat venues & equipment with respect. Accept that opponents are entitled to use any racquet which is approved by TTE.
- Avoid doing or saying anything publically which has the potential for bringing the Sheffield Table Tennis League or its members into disrepute.
- Where others are seen to not be compliant with this Code of Conduct & where you feel able, challenge such behaviour in a calm, polite & proportionate manner, supporting those who are aggrieved.